

MINUTES OF CHAPTER MEETING – September 15, 2005

The meeting was held at the Ryan's Steakhouse, Conway, Arkansas.

President Medlin called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Announcements - The President announced information regarding the Katrina relief efforts and Andrea Foren with the City of Fayetteville addressed the chapter and submitted a list of needed items.

Recognition of New Members - Renee Gates presented the following new member with a NIGP pin: Ray Burnett with the City of Kansas City.

Election of Treasurer – President Medlin stated that Jim Barham has agreed to serve as Treasurer for the remainder of the year. Chapter approved and motion passed.

Treasurer's Report – President Medlin presented the current Financial Report. She stated that it does not reflect the Public Procurement class and the President's conference expenses. Motion was made to approve and seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Updates- Nominating committee has Howard Nesmith as nominee for President Elect. Education committee will hold a Public Procurement class next week. Membership committee currently has recorded 172 members and it is time to renew.

2006 Conference Discussion - Howard Nesmith stated that the conference will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Little Rock on March 19-21, 2006. The conference will have a western theme and to wear western attire. Stephanie Creed mentioned extending the conference to include Louisiana and Mississippi chapters and to obtain speakers for these areas. Howard Nesmith informed members to mention NIGP Chapter when making your hotel room reservations.

Vote on Changes to Bylaws – Howard Nesmith stated that there needs to be a deletion in the bylaws:

- 1) Bylaws in Article III – Vacancies reads "Vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the procedures of Article I, Section K of the Bylaws,"
- 2) Eliminate the wording "~~Section K~~"

This will be voted on at the next chapter meeting.

Speaker- Renee Gates introduced Chris Robb, Midwest Region Manager of U.S. Communities as the speaker for the chapter meeting. Chris Robb talked about the origin of the U.S. Communities group. There are currently ten contracts in place and they will have two more within the next 2 weeks. By having national contracts you received national buying volume. Agencies can piggyback on the contract. State has recently adopted the office furniture contract and Virco. Suppliers must have corporate commitment, price commitment and sales commitment. Agencies still have the ability to go and negotiate prices with suppliers. If you are using the RFP method typically vendors with U.S. Communities will not give you U.S. Communities prices.

The president welcomed our guest and the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cassandra McCuilen-Smith, CPPB CPPO
Secretary